

May 20, 2014 Tours of Fairchild Farm and the Fruit and Spice Park

Fairchild Farm is the home of the tropical fruit collection of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. It is a 20 acre scientific and outreach facility that serves as the permanent home for the living genetic collections of the Tropical Fruit Program of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. The primary collections are of avocado, mango, jackfruit, mamey sapote, sapodilla, canistel, abrico, caimito, Spanish lime and tamarind.

The Fruit and Spice Park is the only tropical botanical garden of its kind in the United States. It is a 37 acre facility and hosts over 500 varieties of fruits, vegetables, spices, herbs, nuts and other commercially important specimens from around the world. The park showcases 150 varieties of mangos, 75 varieties of bananas, 70 bamboo varieties and numerous exotic edibles.

We are fortunate to have Noris Ledesma, Curator of Tropical Fruit at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, as our guide at Fairchild Farm. Noris made a fantastic presentation at our March meeting. Noris will also make a presentation to our group at Fairchild Farm.

We are equally fortunate to have Chris Rollins as our guide at the Fruit and Spice Park. Chris is the Manager of the Fruit and Spice Park. You may have heard Chris speak at our October, 2013 meeting. If you did, you know what a wonderful speaker he is which should make our tour of the Fruit and Spice Park with him quite enjoyable.